



ST. MARY'S CHURCH, STAFFORD.

ST. MARY'S is a spacious cruciform structure, consisting of a nave, two side aisles, a transept, and a chancel of three aisles, with an octagonal tower in the centre. This church is of very remote origin; it has, however, been almost entirely rebuilt, but some remains of the ancient structure are still visible. The general style of architecture is the early pointed. The font is a singular remnant of antiquity, very large, and of heavy workmanship; its height is three feet three inches; the lower part is two feet square, and is ornamented on three sides with human figures lying flat on their faces; on the south side is the figure of a ram. Among a variety of monuments, ancient and modern, in this church, those most worthy of notice are an altar-tomb in honour of Edward, Lord Aston, of Tixal, and his wife, Lady Ann; a monument to the memory of Sir Edward Aston, who erected the ancient mansion of Tixal (temp. Henry VIII.), and his lady, Joan; and one to Lady Barbara Compton, who, as the inscription informs us, "lyeth interred in the parish church of St. Gregory, by St. Paul's, London." The church of St. Mary, anterior to the Reformation, was collegiate; King Stephen, at the commencement of his reign, bestowed it on the Bishop and Chapter of Lichfield and Coventry. At the dissolution, a dean and thirteen prebendaries were attached to it.

ON SEEKING EMPLOYMENT.

It is highly gratifying to us to find our plans in this respect working so well, even in the infancy of our undertaking. There is nothing to hinder this journal and this office from being of immense service to the building trade—masters and men—but their own cupidity or neglect to seize its advantages. The thing, however, is so novel, and as yet so little known, that it has not advanced the pettiest stride towards its full development. Our register book is, nevertheless, crowding with claims, and the office being beset by applications, and we have in several instances, to our great happiness, rendered signal service to the applicants. This is not all, however, that we have to do. It may be thought by many to be a great thing, to be in fact every thing that is required, to bring the employer and the workman in contact with each other, so that such contact end in an engagement; but it is not so. It is not sufficient to be instrumental in launching the bark of a man's success; we must see that the vessel is well appointed, and that the helmsman has his cue—what that cue consists in is not skill alone in the handling of the tiller, but high moral purpose, modest confidence; that he be faithful and unswerving for the ends of good; that, in fact, he may be able to read

the compass by which he has to steer, and know well the chart of his navigation, so as to avoid the rocks and quicksands upon which the unwise and the unwary are constantly foundering.

One short admonition, reiterating the counsel of "Brickbat" in our twentieth number, will serve for our present purpose. Let the man who has a good master stick to him; let him who has not, seek one, pay any price to get him, and when he has got one, keep him; and above all, good master or bad master, let every one resolve to be a faithful servant; none but a fool will part with such a servant.

To masters we say, make your men of as much importance to you, nay, they are, and ought to be of infinitely greater importance, than any thing else in your business. More than your contracts, your ships, your stock in trade; know your men, and cherish the good ones; but, above all things, be truly good and paternal masters to them; none but fools of men will leave you or abuse your confidence.

We will close with enumerating that we have now on our lists an application for a London foreman, for several good joiners, for a pupil to a business connected with modelling, and where the chances would be invaluable to any respectable youth deserving of confidence. We have also, on the other hand, three clerks of works' addresses, men of first-rate character,

and a young gentleman's application for a superintendent of works place, whose recommendations are particularly good; we have also a young man wishing for improvement, who would be turned over to a good master, with advantage to both; and many minor applications.

COMBINATION MURDER AT ASHTON-UNDER-LINE.

Manchester, Saturday.

It will be remembered that in the autumn of the year 1840, a general turn-out of the operative sawyers of Ashton-under-Line took place in consequence of the determination of the timber-merchants there to reduce the wages of the men in their employ to the standard rate of wages adopted in other towns. This led to the masters procuring men from a distance—a proceeding which gave much dissatisfaction to the turn-outs, who caused two of the "knobsticks," as the new men were termed, to be murdered. One of these atrocious acts was committed about six o'clock on the evening of the 11th of December in that year, when a large steam-pipe, which had been converted into a cannon, was discharged into the sawpit of Mr. Richard Whitfield, where two men, named James Cooper, and Benjamin